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PAGE 01 USUN N 04037 182016Z

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SUBJ: THIRD COMMITTEE--25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL
DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. GENERAL DEBATE ON ITEM 56, 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WHILE GENERALLY NON-POLEMIC, LED TO EXCHANGE OF RIGHTS OF REPLY AMONG ISRAEL, EGYPT, IRAQ, AND USSR OVER HOSTILITIES IN MIDDLE EAST. US STATEMENT AVOIDED SPECIFIC REFERENCES AND SOUGHT TO PUT ANNIVERSARY IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE BY CITING ORIGINAL INTENTION OF DRAFTERS OF DECLARATION AND BY DISCUSSING ITS INCREASED IMPORTANCE 25 YEARS LATER. US STATEMENT WELL RECEIVED. (STATEMENT POUCHED HEWITT IO/UNP.)

2. PREPARED SOVIET STATEMENT CLOSELY FOLLOWED TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF SOVIET STATEMENTS MADE IN PREVIOUS SESSIONS. AFTER TRADITIONAL EXPOSITION OF VIEW THAT MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THOSE IN SOCIAL AREAS OF RIGHT TO WORK, EQUALITY OF WOMEN, FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, RIGHT TO LEISURE TIME, AND RIGHT TO OTHER SOCIAL BENEFITS, SOVIET DEL DESCRIBED AT LENGTH IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE RIGHTS IN SOVIET UNION. SPEAKER THEN ADDRESSED HERSELF TO RECENT SOVIET RATIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANTS AND CITED THIS AS A PROOF OF HIGH LEVEL OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM IN USSR AND SUGGESTED THAT THE GA MIGHT WISH
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PAGE 02 USUN N 04037 182016Z

TO URGE OTHERS TO RATIFY AS WELL SO THAT THESE INSTRUMENTS

MIGHT COME INTO FORCE. ONLY REFERENCES MADE TO SITUATION OUTSIDE OF SOVIET UNION WERE TO CONTINUING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND TO ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS, IN VIOLATION TO RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, AND TO RECENT ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST ARAB STATES.

3. MAJOR PART OF EGYPTIAN STATEMENT SOUGHT TO STRESS IMPORTANCE OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION AS GUIDELINE FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE BEING MADE TO CONTINUATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTH AFRICA AND PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES. EGYPTIAN DEL BADAWI CITED ISRAELI POLICIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AS VIOLATION OF RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AS WELL AS VIOLATIONS OF GENEVA CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN TIME OF WAR.

4. EGYPTIAN AND SOVIET INTERVENTIONS PROVOKED ISRAELI RIGHT OF REPLY THAT ISRAEL HAD NOT INTRODUCED WAR INTO MIDDLE EAST, BUT THAT RATHER THE TRUE AGGRESSORS WERE SYRIA AND EGYPT, SUPPLIED WITH SOVIET ARMOR. EGYPT THEN MADE EMOTIONAL RIGHT OF REPLY THAT NEITHER EGYPT NOR SYRIA STARTED THE WAR IN 1967, SINCE WHICH TIME ISRAEL HAS BEEN WORKING TO PERPETUATE HER OCCUPATION OF TERRITORIES TAKEN BY FORCE. THEREFORE, EGYPT IS NOW REPELLING ISRAEL AND FIGHTING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, MAKING THE RIGHT KIND OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IN ADDITION, ISRAEL HAS ATTACHED CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN EGYPT WITH ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS, IN

VIOLATION OF GENEVA CONVENTIONS.

5. IRAQI RIGHT OF REPLY SOUGHT TO DEFINE ISRAEL AS AGGRESSOR, AS DID THAT OF USSR WHICH ASKED ABOUT THE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS. AFTER FURTHER ISRAELI STATEMENT, MEETING ENDED WITH EGYPT REFERRING TO COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY NON-ALIGNED STATES THAT CONDEMNED ISRAELI ACTION AGAINST CIVILIAN POPULATIONS.
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